Frequently Asked Questions - CJLEADS

1. What is CJLEADS?

   The Criminal Justice Law Enforcement Automated Data Services, CJLEADS, is a software application that integrates data found within the state's various criminal justice applications and will provide up-to-date criminal information in a centralized location via a secure connection for use by state and local government criminal justice professionals. CJLEADS will establish the framework for the statewide integration of criminal justice data.

   CJLEADS has two primary objectives: 1) to provide comprehensive information of an offender in an easy to use format for law enforcement officers, magistrates, prosecutors, judges and other criminal justice professionals who rely on the information in making decisions that impact public safety and; 2) to provide an "offender watch" capability to alert criminal justice professionals when an offender has a change in status within the criminal justice system so that they may take appropriate action.

2. What data is included in CJLEADS?

   Given the complexity of criminal justice data and the regulatory, statutory, and contractual challenges to be addressed within the constraints of the pilot timeline, the pilot initially will integrate court records and incarceration and probation information.

3. What data will be added in the future?

   During the summer of 2009, the project team will continue analysis to determine and meet the requirements for including juvenile court records (as permitted by law), information maintained in the sex offender registry, data on concealed handgun permits, local jail booking information, and North Carolina wildlife license and vessel information into CJLEADS. Analysis and planning for the incorporation of data from other states and the federal government, available through the Division of Criminal Information message switch, is on-going.

4. Why is CJLEADS better than what is already out there?

   Information about an offender's involvement in the criminal justice system is now maintained in a number of databases across agency lines. In order to get a comprehensive view of an offender, criminal justice professionals must check multiple sources.   CJLEADS, when fully implemented, will allow law enforcement, magistrates, prosecutors, judges and other criminal justice professionals to make better informed decisions more quickly since the information is in one place.

5. How current is the data in CJLEADS?

   The pilot project currently supports updates on a daily basis.   As CJLEADS expands it will be tuned to include more frequent updates to support expanded business use.

6. Who has access to CJLEADS?

   During the user testing phase, information will be available to the project team for validation and verification. Once approved, the pilot will support 100 users throughout Wake County—law enforcement officers, judges, magistrates, district attorneys, clerks, probation officers, prison officials, and juvenile court counselors, who will test the application in real-world working conditions. Following the final stage of usability testing, the pilot will be accessible by authorized criminal justice professionals in Wake County.

7. Can CJLEADS be viewed on mobile devices?

   Access via mobile devices is not within the scope of the pilot application, but is planned for future development.

8. Can I access CJLEADS from my home computer?

   CJLEADS operates in a secure environment controlled by state IP addresses and is not available through public access.

9. Why is CJLEADS under the Office of the State Controller?

   Session Law 2008-107, H.B. 2436 recognized the need for state-of-the-art integrated criminal justice information and directed the Office of the State Controller and the State Chief Information Officer, among others, to develop and implement a statewide criminal justice data integration pilot program for Wake County.